## Abstract

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**Project Title:** Chemical inhibitors of antigen receptor-induced NF-?Beta activation

Abstract: DESCRIPTION (provided by applicant): Many cellular pathways leading to activation of NF-?B-family transcription factors have been identified, participating in host-defense, immunity, inflammation, and cancer. Recently, a unique pathway activated by antigen receptors on T- and B-lymphocytes has been revealed, involving a cascade of participating proteins that includes CARMA1 (Blimp), Bcl-10, paracaspase (MALT1), TRAF6, and Ubc13. This pathway is initiated by Protein Kinase C-theta, which induces phosphorylation of components of this signaling pathway. Treatment of cells with the combination of phorbol ester PMA and calcium-ionophore ionomycin triggers this pathway, resulting in NF-?B activation. We have devised a stably transfected reporter cell line that contains a luciferase gene driven by a NF-?B responsive promoter. In pilot studies, we have used this cell-based assay to screen collections of compounds, confirming suitable assay performance for the high throughput environment. Hits from this screen are counter-screened using the same reporter cell line stimulated with alternative NF-?B activators, including TNFa, thus identifying pathway-specific chemical inhibitors. We propose to use this cell-based HTS assay for screening the NIH's chemical library. The compounds identified using this assay will be useful research tools for analysis of the physiological roles of this NF-?B activation pathway.

## Thesaurus Terms:

High throughput screening, Chemical inhibitors, antigen receptor, NF-?Beta, T- and B-lymphocytes, CARMA1, Blimp, Bcl-10, paracaspase (MALT1), TRAF6, Ubc13, Protein Kinase C-theta, phorbol ester PMA, calcium-ionophore ionomycin, luciferase, TNFa, cell-based HTS assay

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